HELL'S KITCHEN.
HERE, YOU LEARN TO GROW UP FAST.
BUT THERE'S REALLY ONLY ONE LESSON YOU NEED TO LEARN IF YOU WANT TO SURVIVE THIS JUNGLE.

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IT'S A LESSON "BATTLIN' JACK MURDOCK" MADE SURE I LEARNED WELL.
"BATTLIN' JACK" WAS MY FATHER; HE MADE HIS LIVING AS A BOXER.
LET'S JUST SAY HE WASN'T BIG ON WORDS.
WHICH WAS FINE; I WASN'T BIG ON LISTENING.
HE DID, HOWEVER, HAVE A WAY OF GETTING ME TO OPEN MY EYES.

AND, WHAT MY EYES HAVE SEEN
LIKE WHEN I DISCOVERED THAT DAD ALSO MADE A BIT OF SPARE CHANGE ROUGHING UP THE LOCALS ON BEHALF OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD WISE GUYS.
AS A KID, I SAW A LOT OF BAD STUFF.
ENOUGH TO LAST A LIFETIME.
WHICH WAS GOOD...

...BECAUSE PRETTY SOON I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SEE ANYTHING AT ALL.
DAD ALWAYS SAID, "NO GOOD DEED EVER GOES UNPUNISHED."
I THINK THAT HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH MOA RUNNING OUT ON HIM, BUT I'M NOT SURE.
WHAT I DO KNOW IS THAT THE DAY I SAVED A BLIND MAN FROM BEING HIT BY A TRUCK TRANSPORTING MAD ARDUIS WASTES.
...MUST'VE BEEN EXACTLY WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT.

NOT SURPRISING HOW THE CHEMICAL COCKTAIL THAT POURED INTO MY EYES AND FACE MADE ME GO BLIND.
WHAT WAS SURPRISING WAS WHAT IT DID FOR MY FOUR REMAINING SENSES.
SINCE THEN, MY LIFE HAS BECOME A SYMPHONY OF SCENTS...
...TASTES...
...SOUNDS...
...AND TEXTURES.
MAKES YOU REALIZE HOW EYESIGHT CAN JUST SORT OF GET IN YOUR WAY.

DAREDEVIL: FATHER
CHAPTER ONE: "FATHER'S DAY"

DEDICATED TO THE LOVING MEMORY OF MY FATHER,
JOSÉ LUIS QUESADA

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THE KITCHEN'S QUIET TONIGHT.
GOOD.
FOR TOO LONG THIS PLACE HAS BEEN A CESSPOOL.
A CESSPOOL THAT SUCKED MY FATHER IN AND FLUSHED HIM OUT.
A CESSPOOL THAT TAUGHT HIM HOW TO PAY HIS RENT AND RESOLVE HIS PROBLEMS WITH HIS FISTS.
AND LEAVE THAT LEGACY TO HIS SON.
NO MATTER HOW OFTEN BATTLIN' JACK MURDOCK URGED ME TO HIT THE BOOKS, HIS ACTIONS SAID QUITE DIFFERENT.
THAT TO REALLY GET THINGS DONE...
...YOU HAD TO HIT SOMETHING ELSE.

SOMETIMES, SOMEONE ELSE.
SO, THAT'S WHAT I'VE DONE.
I'VE BEEN PUTTING ON THIS SILLY RED DEVIL SUIT FOR MUCH LONGER THAN I CARE TO REMEMBER.

AND I'VE BEEN HITTING ALL THE RIGHT "SOMEONES" AS OFTEN AS I CAN.
LATELY, MORE OFTEN THAN I CARE TO THINK ABOUT.
FOGWELL'S
SOMETIMES, I THINK I ACCOMPLISH MORE WITH MY FISTS THAN WITH MY LAW FIRM.
SOMETIMES, I DON'T REALLY CARE.
ALL I KNOW IS THAT THE KITCHEN'S QUIET TONIGHT...
...AND THAT'S GOOD.

THANKS, POP.
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY.

9 A.M.
WEATHERMAN SAYS THERE'S A HEAT WAVE COMING.
HE'S RIGHT, I CAN FEEL IT IN MY BONES.
MORNING, FOGGY.
MURDOCK AND NELSON ATTORNEYS AT LAW
MORNIN', MATT.
SO, WHO'VE WE GOT THIS MORNING?
MAGGIE FARRELL. GOT HERE A HALF-HOUR EARLY FOR HER APPOINTMENT.
SHE ALL BROKEN UP, ASKED IF SHE COULD WAIT IN YOUR OFFICE.
MY TIE ON STRAIGHT?
YEAH, YOU'RE GOOD.
HERE IT COMES.
HEY, MATT...
THE BOY'S HORMONES ARE ALWAYS RAGING.
SHE'S CUTE, HUH?
HOW DID Y--
DON'T WORRY, FOG. SHE'S ALL YOURS.
YOU'RE SUCH A JERK.

GOOD MORNING.
OH... HELLO.
MATT MURDOCK. AND THIS IS MY ASSOCIATE, FRANKLIN NELSON.
FOGGY.
MAGGIE. MAGGIE FARRELL.
PLEASURE TO--
PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, MS. FARRELL.
OH, PLEASE. MAGGIE.
FAIR ENOUGH. MAGGIE WAS MY MOTHER'S NAME.
PLEASE, HAVE A SEAT. CAN I GET YOU SOMETHING TO DRINK? WATER, COFF--
I'M FINE, THANK YOU.
MAY I ASK YOU A QUESTION, MR. MURDOCK?
MATT.
A QUESTION, MATT?
SHOOT.

WHY DOES A BLIND MAN KEEP A PHOTOGRAPH IN HIS OFFICE?
CLOSE YOUR EYES.
EXCUSE ME?
TRUST ME. CLOSE YOUR EYES.
TAKE A DEEP BREATH.
OLD SPICE?
RY GOOD! THAT'S EXACTLY HOW MY DAD SMELLED TO ME EVERY DAY.
WHEN YOU'RE BLIND, MAGGIE, IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS THAT TAKE ON GREAT MEANING.
SO, WHAT BRINGS YOU TO US TODAY?
HER HEART, IT SKIPS A BEAT.
THERE'S ALSO SOMETHING ODD, SMELL... CHEMICALS
IT'S VERY SIMPLE, MR. MURDOCK. I WANT TO SUE NJPGL.
NEW JERSEY POWER AND LIGHT?
I HAVE CANCER, MR. MURDOCK. THEY GAVE ME CANCER.
THAT'S A PRETTY TALL ORDER, MAGGIE. WHY WOU--
CHEMICAL, OF COURSE. CHEMOTHERAPY.
SLAM!
WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU!?
HOW DO YOU EXPECT TO GET ANYWHERE ON TIME IF YOU DON'T GIVE THE RIGHT DIRECTIONS?

FOR THE NEXT FOUR-PLUS HOURS, WE LISTEN TO HER STORY.
IN EVERY DETAIL SHE TELLS US HOW PJP&L HAS BEEN ILLEGALLY DUMPING CHEMICALS INTO THEIR LOCAL RIVER...
...INFECTING THE WATER TABLE.
INFECTING THE EARTH UNDER HER HOME.
INFECTING HER BODY.
SHE DIDN'T GET SUPER POWERS, SHE DIDN'T GET ENHANCED SENSES.
SHE GOT CANCER.
...WE'VE [redacted] TRYING FOR MONTHS, PETITIONING AND PROTESTING OUTSIDE OF THE PLANT, BUT UP UNTIL NOW THEY'VE [redacted] NOTHING BUT IGNORE US.
SEAN'S BLOOD PRESSURE-- HE'S IMPATIENT, AGITATED.
WE HIRED AN INSPECTOR AND HE--
FOR CRYING OUT LOUD, MAGGIE, JUST GET TO THE POINT.
LOOK, MR. MURDOCK, WHEN WE GOT MARRIED, I PROMISED MY WIFE I WOULD TAKE HER AWAY FROM THIS HELLHOLE.
SEVEN YEARS AGO I GOT A JOB WITH THE SANITATION DEPARTMENT. IT AIN'T GLAMOROUS, BUT IT BOUGHT US A NICE HOUSE AND PICKET FENCE [redacted] THE 'BURBS.
[redacted] MOVED OUT--MOVED OUT TO START A FAMILY, AND NOW *THIS*--THIS HAPPENS.
SEAN, PLEASE DON'T--
SHE HAS *OVARIAN* CANCER, MR. MURDOCK, [redacted] *CAN'T* HAVE KIDS! [redacted] CAN *NEVER* HAVE KIDS!
THEY *TOOK* THAT AWAY FROM US.
THEY TOOK THAT *AWAY*.

...I WANT TO THANK YOU BOTH FOR COMING IN AND TRUSTING US WITH YOUR CASE.
I PROMISE YOU: FRANKLIN [redacted] I WILL GIVE THIS OUR UTMOST ATTENTION.
BUT I DO HAVE TO WARN YOU, MAGGIE. THIS WILL BE A VERY LONG AND PAINFUL FIGHT.
PAIN I'M USED TO, MR. MURDOCK.
IT'S TIME I MAY NOT HAVE.
FRANKLIN, COULD YOU--
IF YOU'LL BOTH FOLLOW ME, I JUST [redacted] YOU TO FILL OUT SOME PAPERWORK.
AND PLEASE, CALL ME FOGGY.
SHE'S A REMARKABLY BRAVE WOMAN.
BUT, THERE'S JUST SOMETHING ABOUT--
MR. FARRELL, A MOMENT IF YOU PLEASE?

YOU SAY YOU GREW UP IN THE KITCHEN?
YEAH. SPENT MOST OF MY YOUTH HERE, UNTIL I FOUND MAGGIE.
I KNOW THIS MAY SOUND SILLY. BUT DID WE EVER MEET?
NO, MR. MURDOCK, I'M POSITIVE...
...YOU AND I...
...WE NEVER CROSSED PATHS.
MR. MURDOCK, YOUR ONE O'CLOCK, MR. MORTENSEN, [redacted] HERE.
ADRENALINE RUSH, HEART'S RACING.
...FARRELL'S LYING.
DOREEN, PLEASE SHOW MR. MORTENSEN INTO MY OFFICE...
RIGHT THIS WAY, SIR.
...I'LL BE RIGHT IN.
THERE'S A HEAT WAVE COMING.
I CAN FEEL IT IN MY BONES.

Biographical

WE NOW RETURN TO BIOGRAPHICAL ON A & C, "NeRo: MY FATHER'S SON."

A STANDOUT STUDENT OF THE NYC PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, NESTOR RODRIGUEZ SHOWED EARLY SIGNS THAT HE WAS DESTINED FOR GREATNESS.

THE SON OF HISPANIC RIGHTS ACTIVIST AND NYC COUNCILMAN HECTOR RODRIGUEZ, NESTOR DID NOT FALL FAR FROM THE TREE.

BY AGE THIRTEEN, NESTOR'S CONCERN FOR HIS COMMUNITY WAS ALREADY EVIDENT--FROM WORKING IN SOUP KITCHENS TO BUILDING HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS.

AND WHEN THE NYC CRIME RATE SKYROCKETED WITHIN THE LATIN COMMUNITY DURING THE "CROSS BRONX DRUG WAR," NESTOR TOOK MATTERS INTO HIS OWN HANDS...

...SPEARHEADING THE CREATION OF THE **STREET ANGELS**--A CONTROVERSIAL BUT EFFECTIVE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUP WHOSE POPULARITY SOARED AS THE CRIME RATE DIPPED.

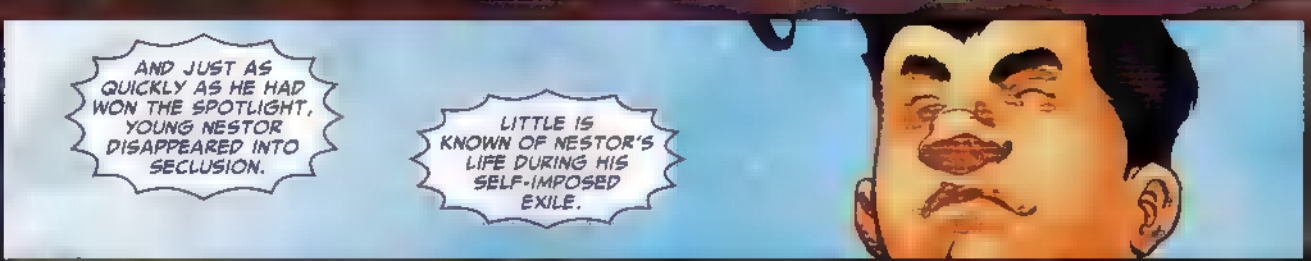
THAT EFFECT WOULD BE **SHORT-LIVED**, HOWEVER. JUST AS THE ANGELS REACHED THE PEAK OF THEIR POPULARITY, **TRAGEDY** STRUCK...

...WHEN THE VIGILANTE KNOWN AS DAREDEVIL DISCOVERED THE SLAIN BODY OF NESTOR'S FATHER, HECTOR RODRIGUEZ.

AMIDST SWIRLING RUMORS THAT COUNCILMAN RODRIGUEZ'S MURDER WAS A **CALLING CARD** FROM THE VERY GANGS HIS SON WAS POLICING, THE ANGELS DISBANDED...JUST AS QUICKLY AS THEY [redacted] FORMED.

AND JUST AS QUICKLY AS HE HAD WON THE SPOTLIGHT, YOUNG NESTOR DISAPPEARED INTO SECLUSION.

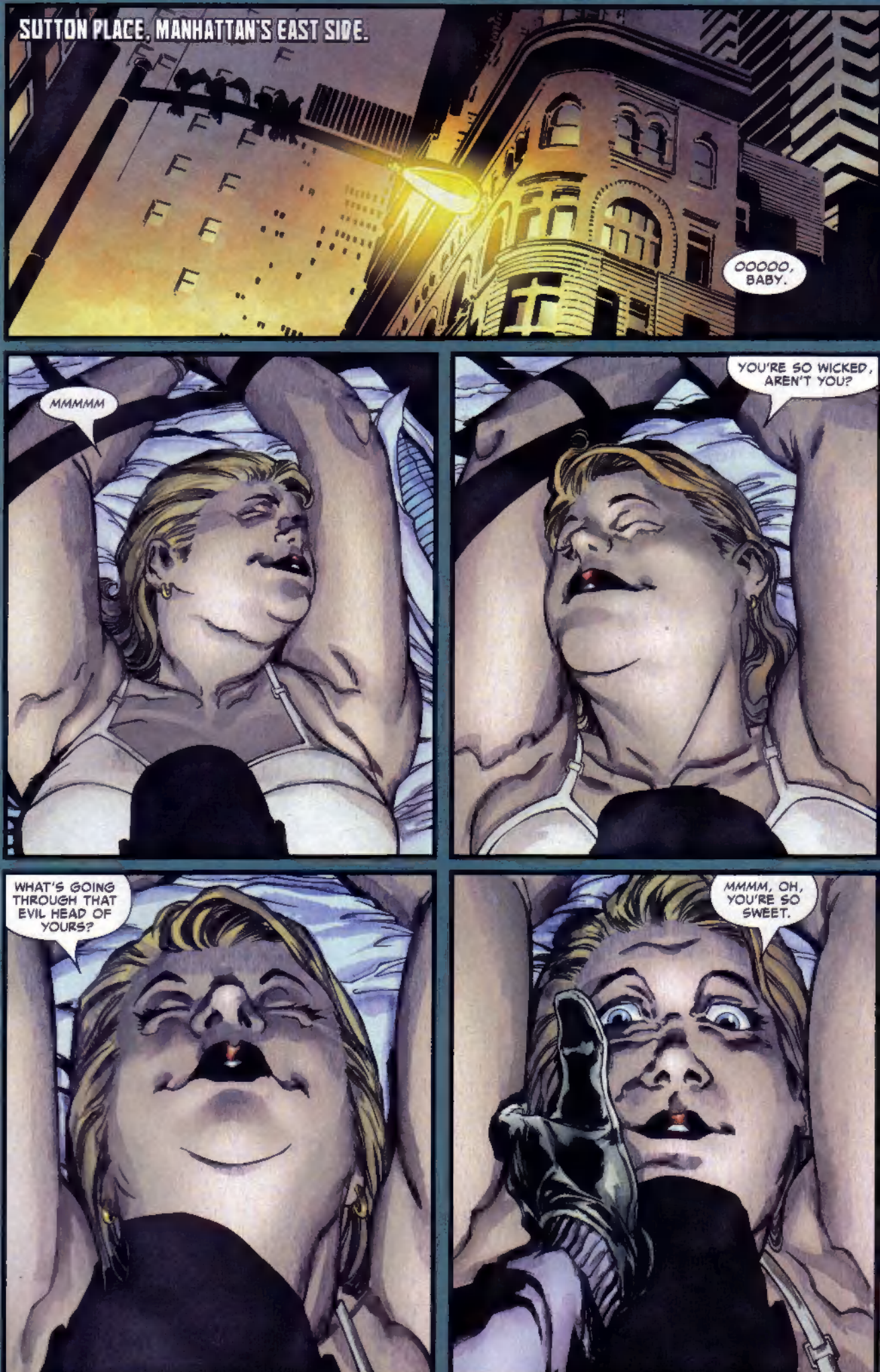
LITTLE IS KNOWN OF NESTOR'S LIFE DURING HIS SELF-IMPOSED EXILE.



FIVE YEARS LATER, MAXIMIZING ON THE VAST FORTUNE [redacted] INHERITED [redacted] HIS FATHER, NESTOR RECHRISTENED HIMSELF "NeRo" AND RESURFACED TO BEGIN HIS WELL-CHRONICLED RISE AS A MEDIA MOGUL.
AND TODAY--WITH HIS FLOURISHING INDY HIP-HOP LABEL, TRENDY RESTAURANTS, [redacted] SIGNATURE CLOTHING LINE--NeRo [redacted], WITHOUT QUESTION, AMERICA'S NUMBER [redacted] ENTERTAINMENT ENTREPRENEUR.
HIS BEST-SELLING FRAGRANCE, "ONLY", HAS [redacted] THE MARKET BY STORM ON ITS UNIQUE CLAIM TO [redacted] SMELL THE [redacted] ON ANY TWO PEOPLE. AND N[redacted]o'S FIRST SOLO ALBUM, "MY FATHER'S SON," REMAINS THE FASTEST-SELLING ALBUM IN BILLBOARD HISTORY.
WIDELY CONSIDERED ONE OF NYC'S MOST PROMINENT AND ELIGIBLE BACHELORS, NeRo'S STAR SHOWS NO SIGNS OF DIMMING.
RECENTLY SEEN ALONGSIDE FORMER MAYOR RUDOLPH GIULIANI [redacted] HELL'S KITCHEN LAWYER/ACTIVIST, MATTHEW MURDOCK, NeRo WAS [redacted] WITH THE CIVIC MEDAL OF--
CLIK!
HOT as HELL
HEAT WAVE on the HORIZON!
DAILY BUGLE
HELL'S KITCHEN SPOTLESS
CRIME RATE CONTINUES TO FALL
DAREDEVIL COOKS CROOKS GOOD

OH NO, OH NO, OH NO!
I GUESS THIS LOSER DIDN'T GET THE MEMO.
IT SEEMS THAT NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU FUMIGATE A HOUSE...
CRACK
UNGH!
...THERE'LL ALWAYS BE A ROACH OR TWO THAT'S LEFT ALIVE.
NNGH, PLEASE... PLEASE DON'T HURT ME.
I WAS JUST LOOKING...I JUST NEED A LITTLE CRANK, MAN.
THERE'S NO CRANK IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.
NOT ANYMORE.
GUGH! I...I'M SOR...I'M SORRY... PLEASE DON'T HURT ME.
PLEASE, PLEASE...
...I'LL DO ANYTHING! JUST DON'T HURT ME.

10th PRECINCT
YOU DONE UP THERE, GIL?
I WILL BE AS SOON AS YOU HAND ME THAT SCREWDRIVER.
PAPER SAYS TOMORROW'S GONNA BE BRUTAL.
WORST HEAT WAVE IN YEARS.
SCREWDRIVER?
WHY IS IT EVERY YEAR WE GOTTA GO THROUGH THIS WITH THE A/C?
EXCUSE ME, OFFICER?
I NEED TO BE PLACED UNDER ARREST.


SUTTON PLACE, MANHATTAN'S EAST SIDE.
OOOOO, BABY.
MMMMM
YOU'RE SO WICKED, AREN'T YOU?
WHAT'S GOING THROUGH THAT EVIL HEAD OF YOURS?
MMMM, OH, YOU'RE SO SWEET.

SHHHHHH.
OOOO, SO DEMANDING.
NFF!
NFFFFF!
GFF! NFF!
ARUUFF!
AAAAAIIIIIEEEEEYYAAAARGH!
TO BE CONTINUED...